

Response to Office Action mailed March 27, 2008

Serial No. 10/597,766; filed August 7, 2006

Inventors: Schulze et al.

Art Unit: 1791

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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

Attachment: One replacement drawing sheet, labeled Replacement Sheet 1 / 1, is attached to the end of this document and contains a replacement FIG. 1.

REMARKS

Claims 9, 13, and 15-17 have been amended and claim 18 has been cancelled. No new claims have been, whereby claims 1-31 are therefore pending. Claims 1-17 are now pending and presented for review. Favorable reconsideration and allowance are requested in light of the remarks which follow.

1. Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-8, 10-12, and 14 are allowed. The Examiner indicates that claims 9, 13, and 15-17 contain allowable subject matter (Office Action dated March 27, 2008, page 4 at paragraphs 3-5) and would be allowed if rewritten to overcome various rejections discussed elsewhere in this submission. Applicants thank the Examiner for such indication of allowable subject matter.

2. Drawing Amendments

The Examiner objects to the drawings based on various informalities such as the position of the Prior Art label and the absence of a numerical indicator in the figure label. Applicant herein removes the inaccurate "Prior Art" label, and restores the FIG. 1 indicator "1," consistent with the application as filed and resolving the issues raised by the Examiner.

The objection to the drawing for showing modified forms in the same Figure is respectfully traversed because the drawing does not show modified forms of the same device but, instead, shows a different portion of that device in each labeled partial section. Each of these portions has different characteristics. Hence, the portion of partial section b), unlike those of sections a) and c), has electrical supply lines 8 (see the first paragraph of Page 10). Similarly, the portion section c), unlike those of sections a) and b), has a terminal box 10 (see the first paragraph of Page 11). Finally, the vibration exciters 4 are on the portion of partial section a) but not on the portions of partial sections b) and c). Withdrawal of this objection is believed to be in order and is respectfully requested.

3. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

The Examiner rejects claims 9-13 and 15-17 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as being indefinite for various informalities such as, e.g., improper establishment of antecedent basis and clarity of certain recitations. Applicant amends each of claims 9, 13, and 15-17, and cancels claim 18,

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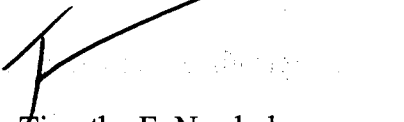
resolving all remaining issues. The amendments find support at, for example, the third full paragraph starting at line 7 of page 3 in the clean version of the substitute specification as filed; pages 7-8 of the substitute specification as filed; the claims, the drawings, and elsewhere in the application as filed. The various amendments are self-explanatory, precisely address the issues raised by the Examiner, and, therefore, in the interest of brevity, do not require further explanation here.

In addition, claims 8 and 10 have been amended to specifically recite the subject matter from claim 1 that was previously incorporated by reference.

Conclusions

Claims 1-17 are in compliance with 35 U.S.C. §§ 102, 103, and 112, and each defines patentable subject matter. A Notice of Allowance is therefore respectfully requested. No fee is believed due with this communication. Nevertheless, should the Examiner consider any fees to be payable in conjunction with this or any future communication, the Director is authorized to direct payment of such fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1170.

Respectfully submitted,


Timothy E. Newholm
Registration No. 34,400

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BOYLE FREDRICKSON, S.C.
840 North Plankinton Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53203
Telephone: (414) 225-9755
Facsimile: (414) 225-9753
Attorney Docket No.: 72.092